

# School Psychologist Certification

A person employed as a school psychologist in a Michigan school is required to hold a valid Michigan School Psychologist Certificate or a Preliminary School Psychologist Certificate.

An application for a School Psychologist Certificate or Preliminary School Psychologist Certificate is created through the Michigan Online Educator Certification System, [MOECS](#).

**Preliminary School Psychologist Certificate** (Michigan Administrative Rule 380.204 & 380.205) Valid for 3 years and available to individuals who meet the following requirements:

- Complete a graduate degree in an approved school psychology certification program (no less than 45 semester credit hours); and
- Complete a supervised internship of a minimum of 600 clock-hours in school psychology; and
- Possess a valid out-of-state school psychologist certificate or license if the school psychologist program was completed in another state.

**Preliminary School Psychologist Renewal** (Michigan Administrative Rule 380.204) A one-time, 3-year renewal requires the completion of at least 6 semester credit hours in an approved school psychologist program. The credit must be completed since the issue date of the preliminary psychology certificate.

**School Psychologist Certificate** (Michigan Administrative Rule 380.206) Valid for 5 years and available to individuals who meet the following requirements:

- Possess a current or expired Preliminary School Psychologist Certificate; and
- Complete an educational specialist's degree or the equivalent in school psychology from an [Educator Preparation Institution](#) (EPI); and
- Complete 1 year of satisfactory [school psychology experience](#)

since the issuance of the preliminary school psychologist certificate.

An out-of-state applicant may qualify for a **School Psychologist Certificate**, valid for 5 years, as an initial certificate if the individual meets the following requirements (Administrative Rule 380.206a):

- Complete an educational specialist's degree or the equivalent in school psychology from an EPI; and
- Possess a valid Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP) credential issued by the National Association of School Psychologists ([NASP](#)); and
- Complete 1 year of satisfactory [school psychology experience](#) since the issuance of the NASP certificate.

**School Psychologist Renewal** (Michigan Administrative Rule 380.206) Valid for 5 years. Requires one of the following completed since the issue date of the previous school psychology certificate:

- 6 semester credit hours in a planned program at an [EPI](#); or
- 6 semester credit hours appropriate to school psychology earned from as a college or university accredited by one of the regional accrediting agencies recognized and published by the: [Council for Higher Education Accreditation](#); or
- 150 State Continuing Education Clock Hours (SCECHs); or
- 150 District Provided Professional Development (DPPD) hours in accordance with Michigan School Code Sections 380.1527; or
- Combination of semester credit hours/SCECHS/DPPD equivalent to 150 hours.

Professional Learning Conversion:

- College credit: 1 semester credit = 25 professional learning hours
- SCECH Hours: 1 SCECH hour = 1 professional learning hour
- DPPD Hours: 1 DPPD hour = 1 professional learning hour

All applications are submitted through [MOECS](#). Here are [instructions](#) for creating an initial MOECS account and [directions](#) for checking your application status in MOECS after an application has been created. If you use District Provided Professional Development to renew your school psychologist certificate, you will need to have the [DPPD form](#) completed by your employing district.

**Definitions:**

*Approved school psychology program* means a state or nationally approved program in a college or university that has regional, state, or national accreditation and that prepares school psychologists in accordance with the laws and rules of the state where the program is offered.

*Educator Preparation Institution (EPI)* means a baccalaureate or higher degree granting institution which is approved for educator preparation in the state where the preparation programs are offered.

*Planned Program* means a cohesive, standards-based course of study that provides a knowledge and skill for specialization in a subject area or areas and supports the practice of teaching.

*Regionally Accredited* means accredited as a college or university by one of the regional accrediting agencies recognized and published by the [Council for Higher Education Accreditation](#).